

pivoted from underneath wristband 304 to a position substantially perpendicular to wristband 304, as illustrated in figure 3a. Flex assembly 308 is then laid across the back surface of a users hand 310 as shown in figure 3b and the opposite hand is utilized to actuate character keys 306 and control keys 312. Display 302 provides visual feedback of the selected row and typed input. When a single flex assembly is used, a conventional QWERTY layout is implemented and a button is used to switch between representations of the left and right side of the QWERTY keyboard. Alternatively, different character switching schemes are utilized which differ from the traditional QWERTY layout for specific applications. For example, the character sequences can be optimized to prevent excessive movement through the character sets via use of the control key so as to help increase input speed. Alternatively, two flex assemblies are utilized, one rotating towards one side as previously described, while the other is rotated towards the opposite side. When the wristwatch is placed on a surface, input is accomplished using both hands. A particular advantage of utilizing two flex assemblies is the emulation of a QWERTY style keyboard.

In the Claims:

(As per 37 CFR 1.121 amended claims are provided below in clean form with marked-up versions attached in Appendix B)

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (once amended) A reduced set character entry system for an electronic appliance, said reduced set character entry system comprising:

a first set of multiple keys, said first set of multiple keys representing a selected subset comprising a single row of characters from a set of QWERTY style keyboard rows, each of said keys associated with a character of said selected subset such that when any of said first set of multiple keys is actuated said associated character is input to said electronic appliance;

a second set of keys, at least one of said second set of keys actuated to change said selected row, and

an electronic appliance display, said display displaying the characters of said selected row.

Please amend claim 8 as follows:

8. (once amended) An electronic appliance including a housing having top and bottom surfaces and a plurality of side surfaces connecting said top and bottom surfaces, said electronic appliance comprising:

a first set of input keys located on said top surface, said set comprising a single row of characters, wherein each of said input keys is associated with an individual character of a first subset of a set of input characters, said subset comprising a row of characters from a set of keyboard rows, and actuation of any of said input keys causing the character associated with said actuated input key to be input to said electronic appliance;

at least one selection key located on one of said side surfaces;

a display located on said top surface, said display displaying said first subset of input characters, and

wherein actuation of said selection key changes said first subset to a second subset so that each of said input keys is associated with an individual character of said second subset and said display is changed to display said second subset.

Please amend claim 15 as follows:

15. (once amended) A compact keyboard input device for an electronic appliance, said input device comprising:

a set of character input keys, said set less in number than an input character set and displayed in a single row, each of said keys comprising an electronic character display and corresponding input mechanism;

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each of said displays displaying an individual character of said input character set associated with said display, actuation of said corresponding input mechanism causing said displayed character to be input to said electronic appliance;

at least one selection key, and

wherein actuation of said selection key causes each of said displays to display a different individual character of said input character set.

Please amend claim 20 as follows:

20. (once amended) An electronic appliance having an input/output device, said appliance comprising:

a display, said display displaying a selected set of input characters;

a wrist band connected to said display for securing said display to the wrist of a user;

a flexible assembly operatively connected to said display;

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said flexible assembly having a set of character keys located thereon, each of said character keys associated with an individual character of said selected set of input characters and at least one control key, wherein said selected set of input characters comprises a single row of characters from a set of keyboard rows, and

wherein actuation of any of said characters keys causes the character associated with said actuated key to be input into said device and actuation of said control key causes said currently selected set of input characters to be changed to a different set of input characters.

Please amend claim 23 as follows:

23. (once amended) A portable phone including a housing having top and bottom surfaces and a plurality of side surfaces connecting said top and bottom surfaces and a reduced set character entry system, said portable phone comprising:

a display located on said top surface;

an input assembly operatively connected to said portable phone;

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said input assembly having a set of character keys located thereon, each of said character keys associated with an individual character of a selected set of input characters, said selected set comprising a single row of characters from a set of keyboard rows, and at least one control key, and

wherein actuation of any of said characters keys causes the character associated with said actuated key to be input into said device and actuation of said control key causes said currently selected set of input characters to be changed to a different set of input characters.

Please amend claim 27 as follows:

27. (once amended) An electronic appliance including a housing having top and bottom surfaces and a plurality of side surfaces connecting said top and bottom surfaces and a reduced set character entry system, said electronic appliance comprising:

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an input assembly integrally connected to said electronic appliance;

said input assembly having a set of character keys located thereon, each of said character keys associated with an individual character of a selected set of input characters, said selected set comprising a single row of characters from a set of keyboard rows, and at least one control key;

said input assembly positionable in a first position where said input assembly is substantially enclosed within said housing;

said input assembly positionable in a second position where said character keys and said control key are exposed for actuation;

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cont.
wherein upon positioning said input assembly in said second position, actuation of any of said character keys causes the character associated with said actuated key to be input into said device and actuation of said control key causes said currently selected set of input characters to be changed to a different set of input characters.

Please amend claim 30 as follows:

30. (once amended) An electronic appliance including a housing having top and bottom surfaces and a plurality of side surfaces connecting said top and bottom surfaces and a reduced set character entry system, said electronic appliance comprising:

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a first set of input keys located on any of said side surfaces, said set of input keys arranged in a single row, each of said input keys associated with an individual character of a first subset of a set of input characters, said set of input characters comprising a row from a set of keyboard rows, and actuation of any of said input keys causing the character associated with said actuated input key to be input to said electronic appliance;

at least one selection key located on any of said side surfaces, and

wherein actuation of said selection key changes said first subset to a second subset so that each of said input keys is associated with an individual character of said second subset.
